

Church News

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I. Dickey, pastor, has about 135 members, many of whom are children whose parents are of foreign birth, some of them Catholics, some saloonkeepers, etc., etc. One lady, who is a Catholic, said her little daughter joined that church through her father's influence, because he didn't like Catholics. Again, there is a considerable Lutheran element there. When the present pastor was installed, two years ago, a considerable debt rested on the church, which has now been paid off, leaving them free of debt. Rev. T. S. Clyce, D.D., of Austin College, at Sherman, recently held a ten days' meeting with this church, resulting in two additions. The congregations were unusually large and included men who had not been inside a church for ten years, and some of them never. The membership has practically been doubled during Mr. Dickey's pastorate, having only 77 when he took charge.

Houston: We have just organized a church at Blessing, in Matagorda county, with an enrollment of 12 good people, and have ordered the trustees to advertise for bids to build a house of worship, which we expect to complete within ninety days. Our Presbytery has also secured the services of a Bohemian minister who will give his entire time among his people and the German, Polish and Russian population coming into our state, and many are from the Reform Church and become Presbyterians readily, if we can only gather them and organize into churches. We are also looking for a Sabbath school missionary to look after six or seven points already opened and lay foundations for churches, and enter new fields of promising outlook and organize Sabbath schools, hoping to work many of these into churches. So Brazos Presbytery is waking up and you may hear further from her in the near future.

G. W. Story.

Toyah: Rev. W. M. Elliott, of Colorado, Texas, recently assisted Rev. W. L. Downing in a meeting here, preaching twenty-seven sermons in twelve days. The attendance was much larger than has been known at Toyah. Four persons united with the Presbyterian Church and others are expected to unite soon. Much good was done.

Fort Stockton: The little church at this place has been greatly encouraged and strengthened. Rev. Messrs. W. L. Downing and W. H. Matthews, held a meeting here last month, continuing eighteen days. Thirty persons professed faith in Christ. Thirteen have united with the Presbyterian Church and several others are to unite at next monthly service. Twelve have united with the Baptist Church. Most of those uniting with the Presbyterian Church are heads of families and fitted for great usefulness. A church building will doubtless be erected soon. Fort Stockton is a very promising

point in the new west in El Paso Presbytery.

VIRGINIA.

Lexington Presbytery will hold an adjourned meeting at Lexington, Va., Dec. 7, at 10:30 a. m. Rev. D. N. Yarbrow will be received and order taken for his installation at New Monmouth church.

Wm. C. White, Stated Clerk.

Churchville, Va.

Richmond: A Bible Class Demonstration—A federation of organized Bible classes for men, of all the Protestant churches, made an impressive demonstration on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 21. About four thousand men without bands or banners marched through the streets and in the great city auditorium were addressed by the governor of Virginia and several noted Bible scholars and teachers. It was a public exhibition of the interest in Bible study, and of the value of the present day movement in organized class work. No doubt the demonstration will serve to extend the gathering of men for diligent Bible reading and study.

Richmond: A memorial service was held Sunday afternoon, November 28, in the Grace Street Presbyterian Church, as a tribute of esteem and affection to Dr. Witherspoon, the beloved pastor of the church, who died October 27. Dr. McDaniel, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Rev. Thos. Semmes, of St. Andrews Episcopal Church and Rev. J. N. Latham, of Centenary Methodist Church, were associated with the Presbyterian ministers of the city in this service. Appropriate addresses were delivered by Rev. Thos. Semmes and Dr. Cecil, pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church. Dr. Witherspoon was honored and beloved by Christians of all denominations and especially by his ministerial brethren in all the churches.

—Second Church: Impressive services were held at the Second Church on Sunday, November 21, when Rev. Lowry Davis, of Greenville, S. C., was formally designated for the foreign mission work and invested with evangelistic powers. President Moore, of Union Theological Seminary, preached the sermon on the occasion and Dr. Cecil, the pastor, delivered a charge to Mr. Davis.

—The Several Presbyterian congregations of this city united in the annual thanksgiving service, which was held at the Second Church. An appropriate and enjoyable sermon was preached by Dr. Theron Rice, of the Seminary.

—First Church: Former Gov. Glenn, of North Carolina, spoke with his usual power at the First Church last Sunday morning and at the Second Church Sunday night.

Norfolk: Park Avenue Church. Rev. S. W. Moore was with us for a week recently, preaching twice each day to good congregations. The church and Sabbath school were greatly benefited by Mr. Moore's visit. Up to last Sabbath, twelve had been received into the church by profession as a result of the meeting.

V. R. Gaston, Pastor.

Staunton: At a special meeting of Lex-

ington Presbytery, on Thursday, Nov. 18, the resignation of the Rev. Dr. A. M. Fraser of the pastorate of the First church, Staunton, to accept the presidency of Columbia Theological Seminary, was considered at length. By a vote of ten to four the Presbytery declined to accept the resignation, and Dr. Fraser remains in Staunton, to the great satisfaction of his church, the community and many friends throughout the Synod of Virginia.

Petersburg: On Sunday, Nov. 21, Rev. Jno. S. Foster, D. D., announced to the Tabb Street congregation his purpose to resign the pastoral charge, which he has held for a number of years, to accept the call of the First Presbyterian church, of Birmingham, Ala. Dr. Foster has had an able, fruitful and most acceptable ministry in Petersburg, and his resignation is greatly regretted by his large congregation and throughout the whole community.

Fredericksburg: Two of our beloved missionaries, Rev. and Mrs. C. K. Cumming, with their youngest boy, left Fredericksburg, Va., on November 11, for San Francisco, where they expect to take the steamship, Manchuria, on their return voyage to their mission field in Japan. They left Calvin, their eldest son, at school in Fredericksburg, and to both parents and son, the prospect of so long a separation, made the parting hour very sad.

Mr. and Mrs. Cumming are two of our most efficient missionaries, and have been on the mission field for many years, except while on furlough in this country. Their attractive personality and devoted consecration have won for them many devoted friends wherever they have been. During their "rest" in this home land, they have visited many churches, from Maryland to Florida, always leaving behind them an increased interest in the spread of the Master's kingdom in foreign lands. They are earnest and devoted workers, and feel that there is no higher calling or nobler work than that of spreading the gospel of Christ among the heathen, to which work they have devoted their lives. May God's richest blessing go with them and crown their lives with the fullest success in all their efforts.

Thanksgiving began early at Tabor manse. The congregations of Olivet, Tabor and Lebanon, of which the Rev. J. C. Painter is pastor, have conspired together to humble him and they have succeeded, for he feels that he is not worthy of the great kindness they have shown him. First, Olivet led off with the presentation of a handsome new buggy, and the children's society gave a lovely laprobe to go with it. Then the following week, suddenly, without warning, the Lebanon and Tabor congregations, almost every family represented in some way, made such an overwhelming inroad as to fill the manse with cheerful, chattering, happy people, and an impromptu Thanksgiving service was held on the spot. They not only brought, but put away, such a store of good and substantial things, that there shall be a constant memorial of